

**Sixth Form News**

 *29th January 2015 (Issue 5)*

**WELCOME** back to Year 12 and 13, it is lovely to have you back in school after your exams; the Sixth Form Centre has seemed very empty without you! Well done for all your hard work over the last two weeks and we look forward to working with you over the next crucial couple of terms in the lead up to the real thing!

**ASSEMBLY** this week was a joint Year 12 and 13 gathering. We had some **really important messages** to deliver to ensure that students make the most of their Sixth Form experience:-

* Following PPE students now need to “step up a gear” and work even harder.
* Students need to listen carefully to their teachers’ feedback (and act on it).
* All students must meet with their mentors once a week. Year 12 students need to establish a good rapport going forward as the mentor is the person who will be doing the UCAS or job references.
* Year 12 are invited to attend the **Higher Education Conference on Wednesday 18th March at Rivermead** (period 5 only) – this is a really useful event to browse university stalls and careers information – more details to be sent home early next week.
* Students urged to look at our **Heathensixthform website** – Mr Hand has just posted some information about The Sutton Trust Summer Schools – particularly relevant to students who are thinking of applying to Russell Group universities. Attendance at these courses helps to ensure that students’ applications impress admissions tutors.
* There is a **Higher Education and** **Careers Fair** in school on **Wednesday 11th March from 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm**.
* Sixth Form have recently bought a software package called Unifrog – this is an on-line platform to help students choose the best courses at university or discover the right apprenticeship for them. We will be putting a programme together to ensure that all students are shown how to log in and get started in the near future.
* Year 13 students should be making their first and second university choices about now. Some students may still be waiting for offers but if they have already decided where they want to go they can reject that offer and make their first and insurance choices. The sooner students do this the sooner they can sort out their accommodation – best to get in early accommodation-wise!! Similarly it is best to start looking at the student finance side of things as a priority rather than leaving it until nearer the time! (Mr Hand will be offering a finance workshop soon – more details to follow).
* For students who have applied to UCAS but have not received any offers then the UCAS EXTRA system will come into play at the end of February so it is worth investigating this option if you are in this position.
* A huge thank you from Ms Vignali to all those students who helped us with our Sixth Form Information Evening last week – we really appreciated all the outstanding support from our young people who helped showcase our subjects to students from our own Year 11, and other schools, who are thinking of joining us in September.

**MR WILSON** Following Mr Ramsden’s letter with the news that Mr Wilson sadly passed away last week, we have put members of the Sixth Form Team in place to mentor those students who were in his group. The Book of Condolence is still available in main reception for anyone who wishes to add their personal message.

**PUNCTUALITY** It is important now to get back into routines; Year 12 and 13 students (if they have a lesson period 1) must, like the rest of the school, ensure that they are in school by 9.00am every morning. (In fact a little reminder that students must get to all lessons throughout the school day on time)…..thank you!

**EXAM ENTRIES** Our exams office have been busy entering all the resit forms which have been submitted. Departments are now in the process of making all their entries and therefore **early next week we will be in a position to issue every student with a “Statement of Entries” document** which will show every exam and coursework they have been entered for in the summer. It is extremely important that students check these really carefully. As well as checking actual exams, it is crucial that the following information is also accurate so please make a point of double-checking your personal details on the form (i.e. full name (spelling), date of birth, and name on certificate (spelling).

These Statement of Entries **will be issued via the Common Rooms** – students will receive a text once they are ready to pick up. Once students have checked this carefully then it needs to be signed and handed in to the Sixth Form Office. **If there are any errors or queries then these must be URGENTLY addressed to subject teachers and exams office.**

The next (and final) stage of the process will be for actual exam timetables to be issued. Please be patient, there is a great deal of work to be done behind the scenes before these are available. We would anticipate timetables being ready no later than when we break up for Easter.

**YEAR 12 PARENTS EVENING** – this is coming up on Thursday 26th February – letters will be sent home next week about this. Students in Year 12 will need to make their own appointments for this evening by liaising with their teachers and an appointment sheet will be provided for this purpose.

**YEAR 13 PARENTS EVENING** – Is on **Thursday 13th March** (further details in due course)

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Joe Ford who has been accepted to study chemistry at Magdalen College, Oxford.

**And finally…..**

**A reminder too that you should check our website regularly for further news and events at** [**www.heathensixthform.co.uk**](http://www.heathensixthform.co.uk) **and follow us on Twitter @lhs6thform.**

**Sixth Form Team**

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